

Appl. No. 10/776,659  
Amdt. dated November 29, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of September 5, 2006

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Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 8, line 3, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Each of the clients 110-116 is a computer system having executable software available to it which enables the client to send and receive communications in Internet protocol format. The entirety of the Internet protocol, Postel, J., "Internet Protocol", STD 5, RFC 791, published September 1981, available at <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc791.txt>, is hereby incorporated herein by reference. Each of the clients 110-116 further has executable software available to it which enables the client to send and receive communications in SCTP format, which is supported by the Internet protocol. The entirety of the SCTP protocol, Stewart, R., Xie, Q., Morneault, K., Sharp, C., Schwarzbauer, H., Taylor, T., Rytina, I., Kalla, M., Zhang, L., and V. Paxson, "Stream Control Transmission Protocol", RFC 2960, published October 2000, available at <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc2960.txt>, is also hereby incorporated herein by reference. Each of the clients 110-116 also has executable software available to it which enables the client to send and receive communications in SIP format, which is supported by SCTP. The SIP protocol supports provision of VOIP communications. The entirety of the SIP protocol, Rosenberg, J., Schulzrinne, H., Camarillo, G., Johnston, A., Peterson, J., Sparks, R., Handley, M., and E. Schooler, "SIP: Session Initiation Protocol", RFC 3261, published June 2002, available at <http://www.ietf.org/rfc/rfc3261.txt>, additionally is hereby incorporated herein by reference. Revisions in the Internet, SCTP and SIP protocols may be published, for example by the Internet engineering task force (IETF).

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Please replace the Abstract beginning at page 26, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

Systems for graceful termination of support for session initiation protocol communications on a server are described. Systems include ~~means~~ techniques for setting a time period for gracefully terminating such support, ~~means~~ for sending a service unavailable message to a client, ~~means~~ for causing the server to maintain support, until no later than the expiration of the time period for terminating support, for uncompleted session initiation protocol invites accepted by the server before sending the service unavailable message to the client, and ~~means~~ for terminating support for session initiation protocol communications on the server no later than upon expiration of the time period for terminating support. Methods for graceful termination of such support ~~and Computercomputer-readable storage media whose contents cause a computer system to perform a graceful termination of such support~~ are also described.